



131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

LD 220

LR 1478(02)

An Act to Support Maine's Potato Farmers and Processors

Fiscal Note for Bill as Amended by Committee Amendment " "

Committee: Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry

Fiscal Note Required: Yes

Fiscal Note

	FY 2023-24	FY 2024-25	Projections FY 2025-26	Projections FY 2026-27
Net Cost (Savings)				
General Fund	\$6,000,000	\$0	\$0	\$0
Appropriations/Allocations				
Other Special Revenue Funds	\$6,000,000	\$0	\$0	\$0
Transfers				
General Fund	(\$6,000,000)	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other Special Revenue Funds	\$6,000,000	\$0	\$0	\$0

Fiscal Detail and Notes

This bill requires the State Controller transfer \$6,000,000 from the unappropriated surplus of the General Fund to the Finance Authority of Maine (FAME) and the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry (DACF) to be used for grants to support the development of sustainable irrigation water sources. Of this amount, \$3,000,000 is being transferred into the Potato Marketing Improvement Fund within FAME to support grants to potato farmers that meet the Department of Environmental Protection Chapter 587 rules relating to in-stream flows and lake and pond water levels and \$3,000,000 is being transferred into the Farmers Drought Relief Grant Program within DACF to support grants to those farmers who are not eligible to apply for grants from the Potato Marketing Improvement Fund.

The bill includes one-time Other Special Revenue Funds allocations totaling \$6,000,000 in fiscal year 2023-24 to allow expenditure of the funds, with \$3,000,000 allocated to the Potato Marketing Improvement Fund within FAME and \$3,000,000 allocated to the Farmers Drought Relief Grant Program Fund within DACF.